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#1 DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

IT'S DESEAN'S TEAM FOR NOW {page 22}

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RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Singer blamed negligence of her fellow city commissioners for provisional ballot problems.

Did Stephanie Singer 'screw up' Philly's Election Day?

- Reformer who took down longtime election boss tells Metro that blame goes around for confusion
- Audit starts tomorrow into why provisional ballots skyrocketed
- Political infighting prominent on election board {page 02}

cyber monday

Viva shopping in pajamas

- Black Friday is over — bring on the online deals {page 20}

Toy drive enters third week {page 06}

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Inquiries digging into Election Day controversy

Why were there so many provisional ballots? City investigations hope to determine why voters were left off computerized registration lists

PHOTOS: KIKARD LARMA/METRO

Singer was ousted as local election chief Nov. 7.

The Nov. 6 election here is facing lots of scrutiny these past few weeks — from national headlines detailing Republican inspector poll shut-outs to post-mortem investigations launched by the three-member City Commission tasked with overseeing the process and the offices of the mayor and city controller.

With the city's certified election results due to the state today and City Controller Alan Butkovitz's audit launching tomorrow, answers could emerge soon.

The most vexing questions surround provisional ballots — the number of Philadelphians forced to cast them more than doubled between the 2008 presidential election and that of this year.

"A lot of finger-pointing has happened already," observed Ellen Kaplan of political watchdog Committee of Seventy, noting U.S. Rep. Bob Brady's comment to the Inquirer that City Commission Chairwoman Stephanie Singer "screwed up" the provisional ballot situation.

Singer was ousted as chair the day after the election by fellow commissioners, Republican Al Schmidt and Democrat Anthony Clark, who voted themselves co-chairmen.

But she said in an interview last week that the blame for any Election Day snafus uncovered by the investigation should be shared by all three board members and that Schmidt and Clark snubbed several of her suggestions that may have helped avoid the snags, including a real-time provisional ballot tracker in which the Judges of Elections at each polling place could push a series of buttons on their Commission-issued cell phones to report each time such a ballot was used.

"It was clear there was no interest from my colleagues," Singer said. "So I withdrew it because there was no interest in even discussing it."

Schmidt last week declined to speculate on possible causes of the uptick in provisional voting pending the audit's outcome and said he was "not in any way familiar with the recommendations" Singer said she made.

According to Schmidt, "a number of factors" led to Singer's ousting, though he would not say if the election was one.

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

How it works, provisionally

City Commission staffers process voter registrations and enter the information into computers for submission to the Commonwealth's Statewide Uniform Registry of Electors database.

Like all elections, the City Commission was supposed to enter a large last-minute groundswell of voter registrations. But 28,000 of them were not yet entered into the SURE system by Oct. 24, Kaplan said.

12,634
Number of provisional ballots that were issued in Philadelphia during the 2008 presidential election

27,100
Number of provisional ballots that were issued in Philly during this year's presidential election — an increase of 114 percent from four years ago

"On the deadline, we received tens of thousands of registrations," Schmidt said. "It's an avalanche of registrations that come in the same night."

He said one source of frustration is third-party canvassers, many who turn in all the voter registrations they gather the night of the deadline, rather than submitting them as they receive them.

Yet, Kaplan said, the Commission told her the backlog was cleared on Nov. 1 and assured her that those 28,000 voters would appear in supplemental pages.

Schmidt

Political infighting began before election

Between Pennsylvania's voter ID law and political infighting in the City Commissioner's Office, some believe that those in charge of making sure the election went smoothly simply spent too much of their energy elsewhere.

Singer, in particular, has been roundly criticized for devoting so much of her staff's time to dealing with the voter ID issue, for which she is unapologetic.

"I wanted to devote as much of the resources of the office that we could to educating the community and making sure that everyone who needed a photo ID got one," she said.

Singer and Schmidt took office in January allied under a reformist agenda, but their bond quickly unraveled.

"By June, Al Schmidt was making a motion to ensure that a commission chair could be removed, rather than serve the full term," Kaplan said. Schmidt recently invoked that provision when voting Singer out.

Kaplan said that until the investigations' results are released, it's difficult to say how political turmoil affected voting on the ground. "Essentially, Singer was doing her thing and Schmidt and Clark were over on the other side doing their own things," she said. "They certainly weren't functioning as a unit."

In the news

355

Texting-while-driving tickets issued in the five-county Philadelphia area between March and September, more than 44 percent of the 796 citations issued statewide during the same period, according to a report released by the AAA Mid-Atlantic. Pennsylvania's ban became law March 8 and saddles violators with a $50 fine. METRO

In the news

Jackpot piles up the cash

There were no jackpot winners from Saturday's Powerball drawing, lottery officials said, setting up a record jackpot of $425 million for Wednesday's drawing. Eight people matched all five white balls, 22-32-37-44-50, but missed the Powerball 34. That means the jackpot rolls over, creating the largest ever for the contest. METRO

In the news

Nutter heading to China to talk investment

Mayor Michael Nutter will lead a delegation traveling to China this week to discuss sustainability and new investment opportunities in Philadelphia.

Nutter will travel to Chicago on Thursday and arrive in Beijing on Friday, returning the following Thursday. While there, Nutter's itinerary includes a few panel discussions on sustainability, an investment forum with Chinese officials and a meeting with the mayor of Tianjin, a sister city, according to Nutter's spokesman Mark McDonald.

In addition to Nutter, representatives from the city's commerce department, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the airport, Drexel University, Fox Chase Cancer Center and the China Partnership of Greater Philadelphia will also make the trip.

"The mayor's going to aggressively promote the city and try to attract investment," McDonald said.

One goal, in particular, is to reach a deal with Air China for direct flights to Philadelphia, McDonald said. Nutter also plans to renew a cultural exchange program with Tianjin dating back to 1980.

Nutter

Quoted

"The mayor's going to aggressively promote the city and try to attract investment."
MCDONALD

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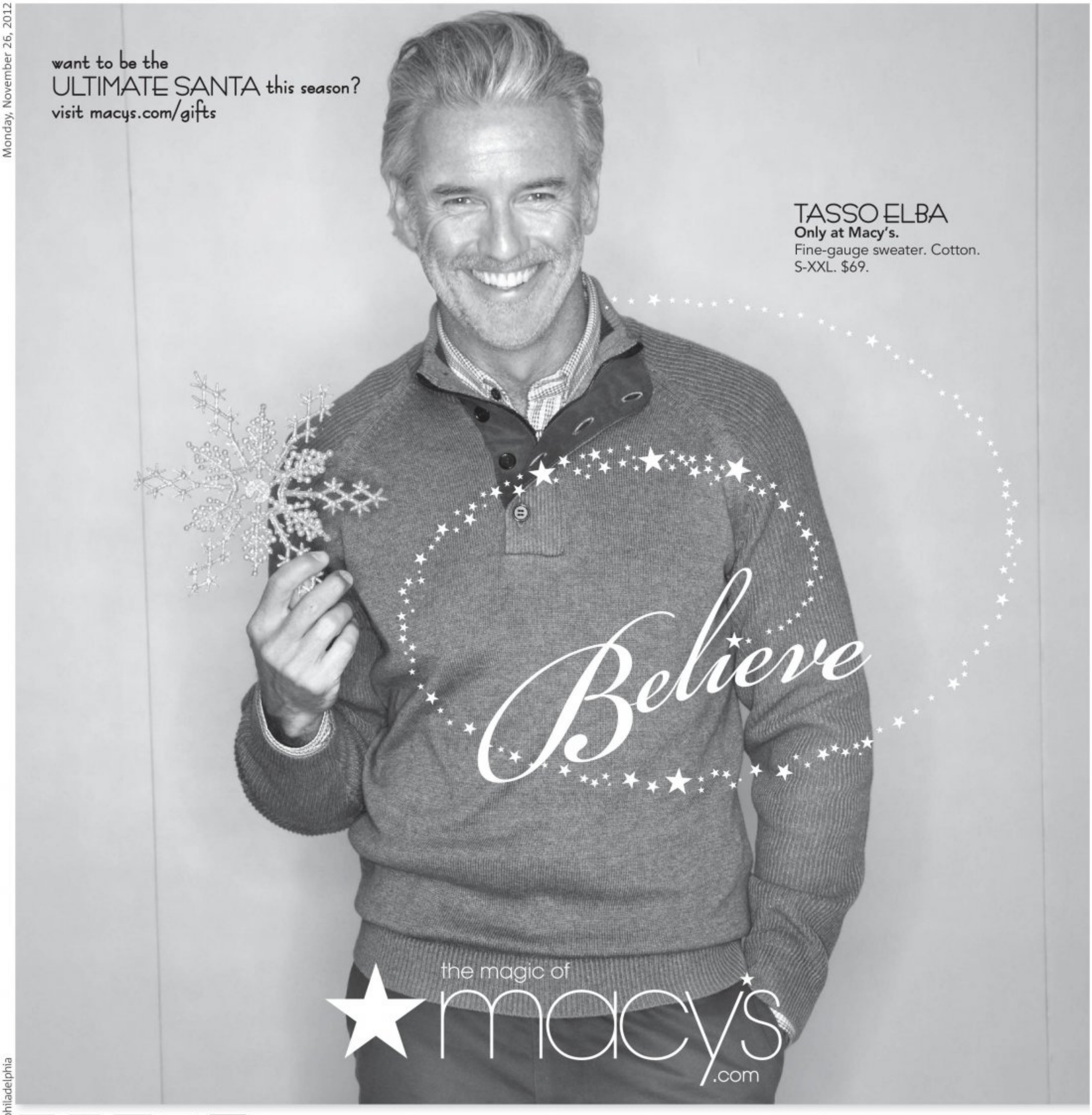

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News in brief

Three murders puts city on verge of 300

PHILADELPHIA. Three people were killed in a little over 24 hours this holiday weekend.

A man, identified as 33-year-old Samuel Vanderhall, was shot to death around 11 a.m. on Thanksgiving in the parking lot of the Blue Moon Hotel in Mill Creek.

A 25-year-old woman was fatally shot in the head around 1:30 a.m. Friday after being caught in the crossfire of a gun battle between four men near the 2000 block of Dennie Street in Nicetown, police said.

A 28-year-old man was killed Friday evening outside a SEPTA subway stop at Broad Street and Lehigh Avenue. He was dropped off at Temple University Hospital and died shortly after 5 p.m.

The victims of the most recent homicides have not been identified.

No arrests have been made.

METRO/AW

297

People murdered in Philadelphia this year as of midnight Sunday, the same number on this date as in 2011, but a more than six percent increase from the year-to-date figure in 2010

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Opinion

JOHN BOLARIS

BOLARIS VISION

HOW TO GIVE A GOING AWAY PARTY

Coach Andy Reid has been a very important part of the Philadelphia Eagles for the past 14 years. And when you're the Birds coach, you not only represent the team — you also represent the city.

The fans — the very heart and soul of this franchise — also represent the city of Philadelphia and its credo of "brotherly love." I understand you're angry and extremely frustrated with the second year in a row of football failure in South Philadelphia. The obvious punching bag is big, bad Red.

Should the coach move on? That's an obvious yes — for the good of the organization and, more importantly, for his health, his family and a time to reflect on the overwhelming bomb that has been dropped on this man (the loss of his son under his watch at training camp earlier this year). Let's not forget this man worked his ass off to win, not only for the organization but for the fans and the city of Philadelphia. Andy appears to be a man of moral character, loved by the players who surround their now-defeated general.

Quoted

But for the past 14 years, Andy continues to put the blame squarely on himself no matter how crazy it drove us all. I'm not going into the X's and O's of the game as I'm not a sports expert. But I do know this: The man should be given his due respect.

But for the past 14 years, Andy continues to put the blame squarely on himself no matter how crazy it drove us all. I'm not going into the X's and O's of the game as I'm not a sports expert. But I do know this: The man should be given his due respect. He has been in our homes for over a decade — part of our family, if you will. We, as fans, represent the city of Philadelphia and the nation will be watching tonight — waiting for it to get ugly, shots of fans with bags over their heads, chants of "fire Andy." This is your chance Philly to represent. Give Andy his due respect, acknowledge he gave it his all good or bad and do the right thing. You want to get rid of the throwing snowballs at Santa image forever? How about a 30-second applause for Big Red. Is this asking too much? Let the man walk away on his own with some warmth still left in his heart for the city of Philadelphia.

*— **John Bolaris**, one of Philly's best-known news personalities, will appear every Monday. He'll give advice on life, weather and any topic in between. So let's start the dialogue. E-mail John at letters@metro.us*

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▶ All the gifts purchased will be sent directly to Metro's office. It's the third year of Metro Magic, where we ask our readers to go online to buy toys for underprivileged children.
METRO

Black Friday online sales top $1B for the first time

Black Friday retail sales online this year topped $1 billion for the first time ever as more consumers used the Internet to do their holiday shopping, comScore Inc. said yesterday.

E-commerce accounts for less than 10 percent of consumer spending in the United States. However, it is growing much faster than brick-and-mortar retail as shoppers are lured by low prices, convenience, faster shipping and wide selection.

ShopperTrak, which counts foot traffic in physical retail stores, estimated Black Friday sales of $11.2 billion, down 1.8 percent from last year.

"Online has been around 9 percent of total holiday sales, but it could breach 10 percent for the first time this season," said Scot Wingo, chief executive of ChannelAdvisor, which helps merchants sell more on websites, including Amazon.com and eBay.com.

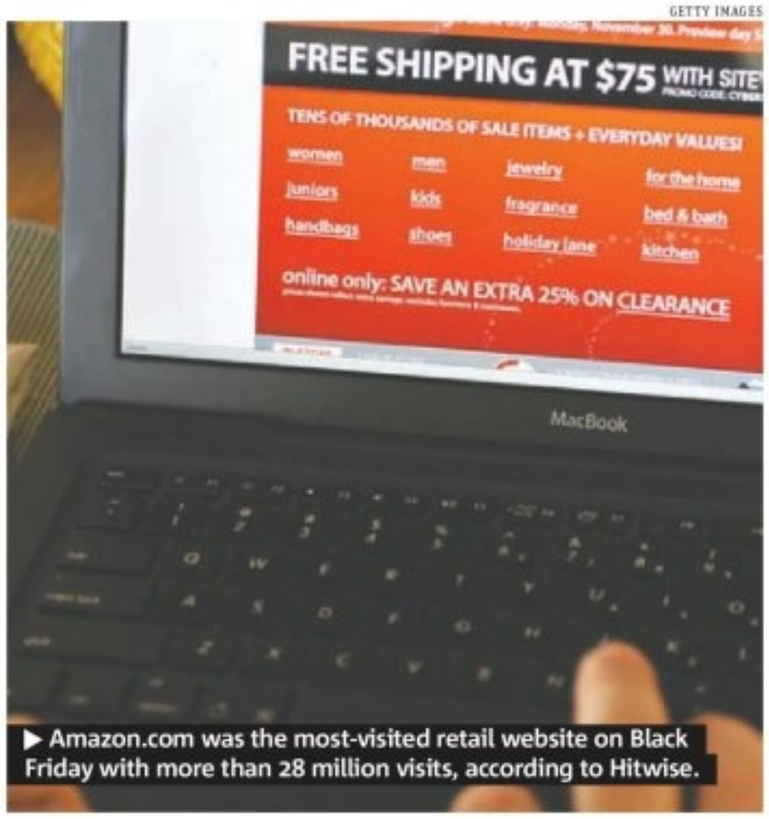
22%

Online sales jumped at least 22 percent on Black Friday, from sales of $816 million on the same day last year, according to ComScore data.

ComScore expects online retail spending to rise 17 percent to $43.4 billion through the whole holiday season. That is above the 15 percent increase last season and ahead of the retail industry's expectation for a 4.1 percent increase in overall spending this holiday.

It's not clear yet whether strong Black Friday sales online will weaken growth on Cyber Monday. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Amazon.com was the most-visited retail website on Black Friday with more than 28 million visits, according to Hitwise.

In the news

Arafat body to be exhumed this week

The corpse of former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will be exhumed next week to investigate allegations he was poisoned, a senior Palestinian official said.

Arafat's tomb in the city of Ramallah will be opened tomorrow, Tawfiq Tirawi, a member of the Palestinian Authority's central committee, said yesterday.

Arafat's wife, Suha, had requested an autopsy to search for traces of a poisonous substance. She told Al Jazeera in July that a Swiss laboratory had detected high levels of the radioactive isotope polonium in Arafat's clothes, which have been in storage since his death in 2004.

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In the news

Revealed: The etiquette of men's restrooms

The byzantine, but largely unspoken rules about how men use pubic bathrooms have been revealed.

Researchers at the University of London spent months studying how men used a variety of public bathrooms and found that many find the experience very stressful.

Dr. Sarah Moore told the U.K.'s Star newspaper: "Quite a few of our participants reported feeling so intimidated and nervous in certain bathrooms that they were physically unable to use the facilities."

They feared physical violence if they failed to stick to certain basic rules, including:

- **Never make eye contact.**
- **Never push into a urinal line unless there is room.**
- **Never draw attention to yourself.**

Men feared being taken for voyeurs by other men, she added. METRO

Head of COP18 speaks of confidence over deal

After the disappointment of previous COP summits, an army of 17,000 delegates is in Qatar attempting to agree an international treaty on protecting the environment. Dr. Saleemul Huq is there and expects progress.

ANTHONY JOHNSON

▶ Huq

After recent failures, why should we be optimistic about COP18?

There is urgency because the previous Kyoto Protocol expires Dec. 31, and everyone recognizes there needs to be an agreement lasting to 2015. I think Obama's election victory has helped break the taboo on climate change issues and there is growing realization from the EU and China that we need to take it more seriously.

What are the main obstacles?

One concern is financing the developing countries on climate change. The agreement of $30 billion support over three years is expiring — and although everyone knows what is needed, the exact language will be argued about until the last hour of the last day. The commitment has been very contentious and countries such as Russia and Australia have been playing hard to get.

How do you reenergize public opinion on green issues?

We are rapidly approaching the point that renewable energy becomes financially competitive and if the nations can cooperate we will see a tipping point away from fossil fuels. Major weather events are making people take notice, such as superstorm Sandy and a major drought in the U.S. Midwest this year. The so-called "Denialists," like [New Jersey] Governor Chris Christie, are breaking ranks and accepting the science.

How significant is locating the event in Qatar?

It seems strange as it has the highest per capita emissions in the world. But the government is proactive and is bringing in the other Gulf states that rely on oil exports. They want to be part of the solution, not the problem and are allocating major resources for solar energy. They are so rich that if they invest now, they will be well placed to lead the renewable revolution.

"I think Obama's election victory has helped break the taboo on climate change issues, and there is growing realization from the EU and China that we need to take it more seriously." HUQ

KIERON MONKS
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

What is COP18?

Since the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change entered into force in 1994, the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC has been meeting annually to assess progress in dealing with climate change. The COP is the "supreme body" of the Convention, its highest decision-making authority. It's an association of all the countries that are Parties to the Convention.

There are now 195 parties to the convention taking part in climate change negotiations. Successive decisions taken by the COP make up a set of rules for practical and effective implementation of the convention.

In 2010, governments agreed that emissions needed to be reduced so that global temperature increases could be limited to below 2 degrees Celsius.

— Source: www.cop.qa

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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Tour fails to 'shine bright'

When Rihanna finally took the time to talk to Metro on the last day of her 777 Tour, she almost made up for how horrible the rest of the trip was

Rihanna's 777 Tour has taken its toll on journalists and fans who followed the star around the globe. After a week, their frustration exploded. Constant delays, lack of sleep (those on board had to crash whenever and wherever they had a chance: on coaches, onboard the plane or on a floor) and not knowing when the next opportunity to eat and drink would materialize make for circumstances most would endure with joy — if only the main subject of the whole trip would show herself offstage. After mounting criticism spread like a wildfire online — that's the risk you take when you invite 150 journalists — Rihanna on the last day showed herself on the plane. Wearing a puffy jacket and dark sunglasses, she appeared 10 minutes before the plane was due to land after the last leg. She even came close to offering an apology. "I didn't get to spend as much time as I'd originally planned with you guys. I think you are tired as well, so I'm gonna come and sit here with you guys. And thank you, everybody, for making this trip the s—," she told the journalists.

Quoted

"Press who really wanted to know the dirt rarely got any dirt because I had to be good. I had to be good this time."
RIHANNA

What was the hardest part of the tour?

The hardest part? I guess trying to balance being a hostess and a performer. I'm supposed to do my show and then shut the f— up until the next show. Because the two hours we have to fly, that's when I can sleep, but I really wanted to hang out and interact with everybody and give everybody my time. So I guess that was difficult.

Can you sum up the tour for us?

Rock 'n' roll, true friends. Press who really wanted to know the dirt rarely got any dirt because I had to be good. I had to be good this time. We would have had a 333 tour if I wasn't good. I wouldn't have lasted. I still sound like s— right now. But tonight is the last s—, so we are going all the way. No mercy, that's what I mean. I'm gonna put all my energy into this one show," the singer told our Metro reporter on the plane.

So, on Wednesday, Ri Ri ended the tour at Webster Hall in New York before boarding yet another flight to celebrate Thanksgiving with her ex **Chris Brown** at a club in Berlin. "All alone in my big ole jet!!! See u soon lover," she tweeted before her now empty plane took off.

And with that, the Word is going to take a much-needed break from caring about the mess that is Rihanna.

*— Metro's **Katarina Matsson** tried to follow Rihanna on her 777 Tour. She, and her fellow journalists and fans, didn't have much luck.*

KEVIN MAZUR/WIREIMAGE

▶ Whew. Rihanna's painful 777 Tour is finally over. And so is our reporting on all things Rihanna related — for now.

The feed ...

▶ **Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.**

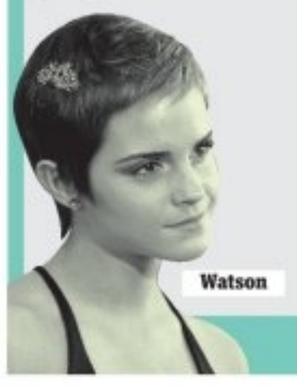
Today, Eva Longoria is getting in touch with nature, Paris Jackson has an idea for an app, Paris Hilton is a sucker for reality television and Emma Watson is quite strong.

@EvaLongoria: Omg this white/grey owl just landed on my balcony 5 feet away from me! Doesn't that symbolize something?!

@ParisJackson: can they make a settings for when you type on an iphone it makes a typewriter clicking sound and when you send a text it goes "cha-ching!"

@ParisHilton: At home relaxing watching Honey Boo Boo. She is such a lil character, love her! Such a funny cute show. Lol

@EmWatson: I never feel so accomplished as when I open a tough jar.



Watson

Talking points

Stone's possible sex tape is out there

"Amazing Spider-Man" star **Emma Stone** could be the latest Hollywood starlet to be haunted by her home-movie past, if Radar Online's report is correct. "Emma Stone has a sex tape and that's a fact," a source tells the website. "She made it long before she started dating **Andrew Garfield** and before she became a household name. She was just young and probably thought nothing would ever come of it." Luckily for Stone, no efforts have been made to shop the tape around — yet. "The tape remains in the hands of the person she made it with," the source explains. "But that doesn't mean there's any guarantee that it won't eventually hit the market. The higher Emma's star rises, the more valuable that tape becomes."

Emma Stone

Bieber and Gomez: It's back on!

Justin Bieber and **Selena Gomez** are actually back together and trying desperately to make their relationship work amid all the public scrutiny, a source close to the pair tells Radar Online. "The problem between them stemmed from Justin texting other girls," the source explains. "Selena is embarrassed by what he did because it makes her look stupid, that he would talk to these other girls, and she is also embarrassed that everyone is so invested in their relationship now because of his actions." And as for their dinner date in L.A. last week that ended with Gomez storming out? "There was no blowup," the source says. "Selena is just super-embarrassed by all of this attention, and she got upset when they sat down and people were staring and pulling out their cell phones."

▶ Gomez, Bieber

Between acts of Thanksgiving gluttony were a few choice concerts

1: Klara Soderberg of the Swedish folk duo First Aid Kit performed on Thanksgiving in Manchester.

2: Andrea Bocelli kicked off his six-city fall tour on Friday in San Jose, Calif.

3: Ke$ha stopped by NBC's "Today" on Tuesday to promote her forthcoming new album "Warrior."

4: Gwen Stefani fronted a No Doubt concert on Saturday in Universal City, Calif.

5: R. Kelly brought his "Single Ladies" tour to MSG Theater on Wednesday in New York City.

6: Diana Krall performed at Palais des Congres on Wednesday in Paris.

1: ANDREW BENGE/REDFERNS VIA GETTY IMAGES
2: TIM MOSENFELDER/GETTY IMAGES
3: DEBRA L. ROTHENBERG/GETTY IMAGES
4: JEFF KRAVITZ/FILMMAGIC
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Advertorial

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Erectile Dysfunction Clinic Opens in Philadelphia

BY STEVE MUELLER
Men's Health Consultant

Wayne • Local physicians at a new medical clinic in suburban Philadelphia are so sure their medication will help men with erectile dysfunction, they are offering the first 200 callers a free in-office medication dose.

Erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation have long been a problem for millions of men, in spite of the popularity of Viagra, Cialis and Levitra. Many men aren't helped by these pills or cannot take them due to adverse side effects.

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Openings are filling quickly for the free in-office medication dose, after that the normal fees will be charged. Patients are assured of utmost privacy and professionalism with private waiting rooms and an all-male staff. Further information is available by calling **(610) 687-7790**.

Pennsylvania Men's Medical Clinic, 125 Strafford Ave., Suite 310, located on the Main Line in suburban Wayne, PA. Exit I-476 on Lancaster Ave./US-30 and go west 2 miles to Strafford Ave. Turn right, building is one block down on your right.

www.PaMensClinic.com

The art of holiday shopping

Before you hit the mall this year, pay a visit to the galleries Where to pick up artful, one-of-a-kind presents you can't order on Cyber Monday

Penn Museum

3260 South St.
www.penn.museum

In honor of its "Maya 2012" exhibit, the Penn Museum gift shop is stocked with a new collection of "I'm Going to Party Like It's 11.0.0.0.0!" giftables (that's nerd numerals for Dec. 21, 2012, the date of the rumored apocalypse). As for less fatalistic options, the museum also stocks artisan scarves and bags, Mexican ceramics and glassware, handmade baskets and educational toys. Stop by during its annual holiday sale (Dec. 5-9), when you'll save 10 percent on all purchases.

PENN MUSEUM

▶ In case the world doesn't end before Christmas, hit up Penn Museum's gift shop.

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Philadelphia Art Alliance

251 S. 18th St.
www.philartalliance.org

For its new "Shop on the Square" series, the Philadelphia Art Alliance is turning its second-floor galleries into a handmade holiday boutique with jewelry, accessories, clothing, tableware and more by local artists. After a kickoff preview benefit and auction on Dec. 3, the sale is open to the public daily Dec. 4-9 (noon-7 p.m.) and includes kid-friendly craft stations.

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TV watch list

BROWNIE HARRIS/NBC

▶ Billy Burke, left, stars as Miles Matheson and David Lyons as Sebastian Monroe on "Revolution."

'Revolution'

DRAMA. The mid-season finale finds Miles and Monroe — the former pals who have become the embodiment of good and evil postblackout — facing off in a much anticipated showdown in Philadelphia. (Bonus points to J.J. Abrams and co. if it all goes down "Rocky"-style.)
10:01 p.m., NBC

'Extreme Makeover: Home Edition'

REALITY. Jenny McCarthy guest hosts the first of four holiday-themed weepers this season; this one is a Thanksgiving-themed episode transforming the home of a Knoxville, Tenn., family that has dedicated their lives to helping single mothers. **9 p.m., ABC**

'Dancing with the Stars: All-Stars'

REALITY. Tonight's final routines lead to tomorrow's very first disco ball trophy-winning all-star.
8 p.m., ABC

'RuPaul's All Stars Drag Race'

REALITY. If you ask us, these are the all-stars you should be watching tonight. RuPaul crowns one of the returning contestants Queen of all Queens.
Season finale, 9 p.m., Logo

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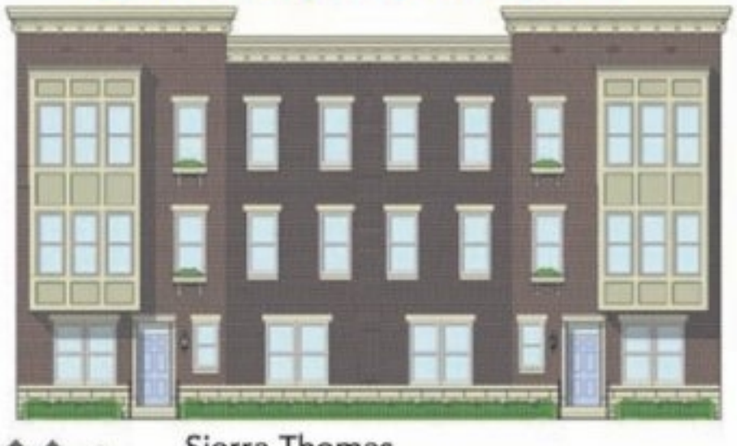

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myentertainment

Vampires foil Tooth Fairy, Santa to claim box office win

Teen vampire film "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2" took another bite of the domestic box office, drawing $64 million in ticket sales over the five-day Thanksgiving holiday weekend to finish ahead of the James Bond film "Skyfall."

After opening with a massive $141.1 million last weekend, the finale of the "Twilight" franchise brought in a holiday swarm of fans to see teen favorites Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart and Taylor Lautner, pushing "Breaking Dawn" to $227 million in domestic ticket sales.

"Skyfall," starring Daniel Craig in the 23rd installment of the James Bond franchise, finished second, collecting $51 million in weekend ticket sales in the United States and Canada, according to studio estimates compiled by the box office division of Hollywood.com.

"Lincoln," Steven Spielberg's historical film about the last days of President Abraham Lincoln, grabbed third, with $34.1 million over the Wednesday-through-Sunday period.

Making its debut in fourth place with $32.6 million was the animated film "Rise of the Guardians," featuring the voices of Chris Pine and Alec Baldwin as the Tooth Fairy and Santa Claus, respectively.

"Life of Pi," based on Yann Martel's 2001 best-seller about a boy who survives on a raft with a tiger after a ship sinks, collected $30.15 million for a strong fifth-place finish.

REUTERS

SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

▶ "Come, come children, and give me your allowance money," beckons Aro of "The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 2."

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An icon playing an icon

Alec Baldwin talks about his latest role as one of the most beloved characters in the world in the animated film 'Rise of the Guardians'

▶ No one would argue with a Santa who has tat sleeves.

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Alec Baldwin

Alec Baldwin is widely recognized for the huge variety of roles he's played throughout his long, successful career, but you might not have expected him to tackle his latest character in the DreamWorks animated film "Rise of the Guardians."

Baldwin gives voice to an unconventional Santa Claus, with a thick, brutish accent and drawn with arms full of tattoos. One of the film's producers, Christina Steinberg, puts it perfectly: "Who's more naughty and nice than Alec?"

Although Baldwin has voiced numerous characters in animated films in the past, including "Madagascar 2" and "Cats & Dogs," you'd expect that children's films wouldn't be of much appeal, considering his only daughter is now a teenager.

"I think that people all say that they want to ... do this children's programming for your kids," he says. "My daughter is 17 now, my daughter is watching God-knows-what. It's kind of frightening, but I think that when they showed me that these were going to be edgier versions of these characters — when you see the Santa Claus figure it's usually ... a rosy-cheeked, saintly man with not a lot of dimension — [it] was a lot more real, so I loved that."

The film follows a group of guardians — all mythical, iconic figures like the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny and Jack Frost — who must work together to take down the boogeyman, known as Pitch, who is haunting the dreams of children. Baldwin talked about his personal beliefs regarding Santa Claus when he was a child and how he discovered it was all a myth:

"I think they only told me because the more kids my mother had, the more wrapping they had to do. I immediately became enlisted as a wrapper."

BALDWIN, ON SANTA

"I walked into a room and my sister was wrapping presents with my mother and I was like, 'Wait, what?'" he explains. "I think they only told me because the more kids my mother had, the more wrapping they had to do. I immediately became enlisted as a wrapper."

But just what was it like for Baldwin to play the legendary character? "The key with these kinds of films is to work your way toward a much warmer kind of humanistic place, literally in your voice. You want to try to keep it warm. There's a great deal of love and warmth in the piece, [but] there's always a chance to make it really, really bombastic, especially with the Santa Claus character. There's a chance to make it very strident. The guy is very, very powerful in some scenes — but in other scenes you want to make it silly and fun and child-friendly."

OLIVIA MORROW
letters@metro.us

What's next for Baldwin

As he prepares to say goodbye to his longtime gig on "30 Rock," it seems Baldwin's life is slowing down, as he says his career is all about quality rather than quantity now.

"I'd rather just stay home with my wife and my two dogs and watch TV now. I'd rather watch a movie than make a movie any day," he says. "I'm at a stage now where it's more like when you were a child where you're very present. When you're kids, everything is very small. Then you turn 50 — the world becomes a lot smaller and you'd rather do less things and do them well and have a more satisfying personal life."

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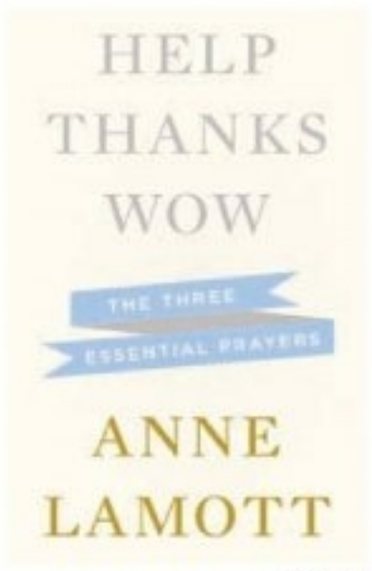

It's the most wonderful time for a self-help tome

SAM LAMOTT

▶ Anne Lamott

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening? Most likely, the answer is no. Rather, your iPod's at peak volume as you're racing through aisles, trying to ignore the clanking of shopping carts, the feedback of intercom announcements and the throngs of consumers deliberating over which shades of Ikea table runners their mothers won't turn their noses up at during Christmas dinner. It doesn't matter what's playing; eventually even guided meditation podcasts can't drown out the noise our minds make leading up to the holidays. There's so much anxiety caused by family obligations, end-of-year deadlines, buying gifts (or being unable to do so) and traveling — not that you needed to be reminded.

What's necessary to remember, however, is that we're only human and there's only so much we can take on ourselves. Sometimes we need help, and that's where Anne Lamott comes in. With grace, humility and her signature sense of self-deprecating humor, the celebrated author keeps our insanity in check with her latest inspirational, if not breezy, book, "Help, Thanks, Wow." While it's not a guidebook for how to set intentions and offer gratitude — Lamott insists there aren't codes for this — it's a compact companion reader to snap you back to the present moment with each page turn.

If you go

Anne Lamott will read from "Help, Thanks, Wow" this Wednesday evening at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, 625 Montgomery Ave., Bryn Mawr

For Lamott, "help," "thanks" and "wow" are all expressions of prayer, which she emphasizes can be secular and should be personalized to accommodate your own beliefs. By her definition, prayer is simply "communication from our hearts … to the animating energy of love we are sometimes bold enough to believe in." In other words, it's our needs and desires, articulated. Through self-reflective anecdotes, she breaks down the three prayers and encourages us to start and sustain a practice of peace and mindfulness.

"Help," says Lamott, "is almost an involuntary reaching out, a sound of desperation." The panic could stem from something as small as a delayed flight or as big as a blizzard exacerbating the wreckage caused by superstorm Sandy. Whatever the reason, calling for help is to surrender, admitting we can't control everything, certainly not air traffic or the weather.

If to ask for help means to let go, then giving "thanks" is the ability to re-frame what caused us to panic in order to move on. "[To say] 'thank you' breaks through the thoughts, business, obsession and fixation to this pure moment of gratitude, the amazement that things have worked out," insists Lamott. We may not hear answers to our cries for help immediately, but with patience and without anticipating a perfect outcome, we can try to find some good in even the worst-case scenarios.

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Amidst the chaos of the holidays, there's still plenty to be thankful for. Find your zen.

the sound of an exhaled breath. "To say 'wow' means you're agreeing to pay attention," says Lamott, adding that awareness "is the path, the cord, the channel that connects us to joy."

According to Lamott, intentions can take various forms, passive or active. For example, she suggests writing them down on paper and then depositing them into a box, which simulates the process of submission and letting go. Moreover, opening the heart can take place anywhere, even in transit. "Anywhere you are conscious is sacred space," says Lamott. Your subway car may be crowded, stuffy and loud, but the author adds: "It's all nutritious, if you're truly there for it."

How might you decide to practice awareness, aside from being acutely aware of how ridiculous you look in the sweater your grandmother knitted? Consider this: What if you're wearing it to your dysfunctional family's holiday festivities? (Help!) Think of how happy it makes your Nana to see you in it (re-frame the situation: Thanks!). And, finally, remember, baby, it's cold outside. Although you may be the victim of snarky finger-pointing, you're alive and warm, inside and out. (Wow!)

GINA ANGELOTTI
gina.angelotti@metro.us

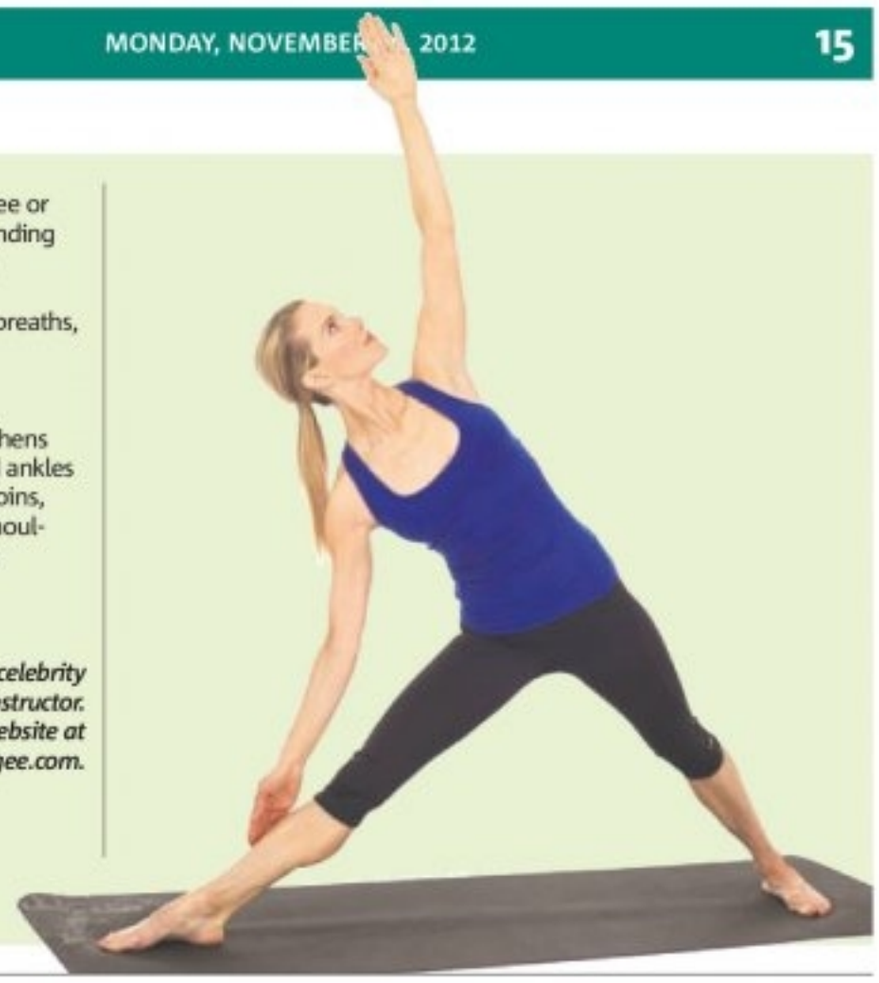
Yoga pose of the week

Extended triangle pose (Utthita Trikonasana)

1. Stand with your feet apart at least as wide as the length of your own leg.
2. Turn your right foot out 90 degrees and your left foot in about 45 degrees.
3. Lift the sides of your waist as you stretch your arms out to your sides, then lean to your right and place your right hand on your foot, shin, knee or upper thigh, depending on your flexibility.
4. After five to eight breaths, switch sides.

Benefits:
- Stretches and strengthens the thighs, knees and ankles
- Stretches the hips, groins, hamstrings, calves, shoulders, chest and spine
- Helps relieve stress

— Kristin McGee is a celebrity yoga & Pilates instructor. Visit her website at www.kristinmcgee.com.



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News in brief

Cyber Monday in the office

Looking to score some desk-side Cyber Monday deals? You won't be the only one clicking through Amazon: In a new survey by staffing firm Robert Half Technology, only one-third of employers interviewed said they blocked access to online shopping sites. That's down dramatically from last year, when 60 percent reported blocking access. While 55 percent of employers said that they allow online shopping but monitor their employees for excessive use, 10 percent reported allowing unlimited access to shopping sites.

METRO

30% Percentage of employers who block all access to online shopping sites

5 Questions you shouldn't ask at a job interview

Being prepared with the right questions at the end of an interview can help seal the deal in your favor.

However, ask any of the following questions and you could be staring at your phone for weeks wondering where it all went wrong.

1 How much will I make at this gig?: You should know how much you would like to be paid compared to industry standards and for someone with your experience. The interviewer may ask you about the salary range you are expecting to earn. You, however, should never ask them how much you are going to earn, especially during a first interview.

2 How long until I get promoted?
Try not to make it sound like you are only using this job as a stepping stone to your next one. Focusing on how passionate you are about this job, its projects and the company's goals is a better tactic.

Learn about advancement in a more roundabout way, such as by asking about possible training and development opportunities, performance reviews or where the interviewer started with the company to get to where he or she is now.

It's a double standard, but asking makes you look like you care more about the money than the job at hand. Put your passion for the work before your empty bank account.

3 Do I have to work overtime or on weekends or holidays?: The details of vacation time and pay should be left for a later interview or after receiving a job offer. Ask instead what a typical day or work week is like at the office for someone in this position to figure out what's been done in the past and the time commitment required.

4 I heard about [some piece of company news] on your website. Can you tell me more?: If you found something inter-

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▶ They get to ask whatever they want. You, however, have some rules to play by.

THINKSTOCK

esting on the company's website and just want to prove you did your homework, don't ask this question. The interviewer may not be able to answer the question if they don't work in that department.

You want to seem perceptive and knowledgeable, and not that you simply know how to use Google.

5 When is the baby due?: Keep all personal questions out of the equation and don't refer to the interviewer casually unless instructed to do so. Build rapport in other ways by asking them about their management style or their involvement with the position at hand. Company culture is another safe bet. Don't broach the topic of drinks after work just yet — unless they do, in which case, keep your enthusiasm for alcohol to a minimum.

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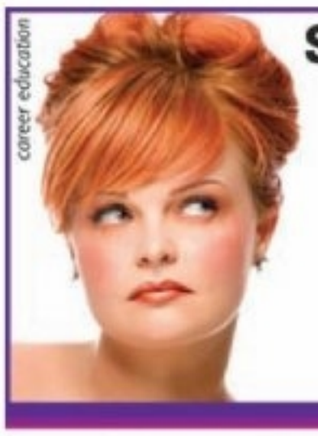

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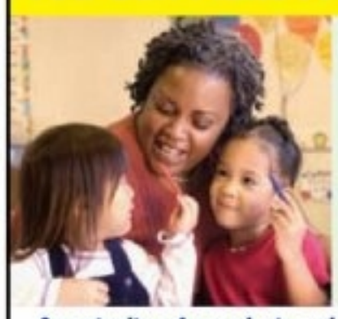

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Building a more perfect union

Union organizer Jason Mann outlines the common mistakes that new unions make How unhappy workers can more effectively organize themselves

In 2003, Jason Mann grew exponentially more frustrated every week his employer — a well-known office supply store — failed to pay him on time. The unionizing drive he helped lead was ultimately unsuccessful, but he left the company determined to put the experience to good use. Ever since, Mann has been a prolific organizer, consulting with countless international unions, including IATSE, Teamsters and SEIU. In 2009, he founded his own Vancouver-based company, Strategic Organizing.

What do you love about union organizing?

I love the process: You start out with a small group of people who are afraid to meet with you in the beginning because they have no power. You watch them slowly become more empowered. They go from a place of being disrespected to feeling they can speak up for themselves.

How is organizing in the U.S. different than in Canada?

In Canada, if a group wants a union they will have a vote within 10 days of calling for one. In the States it could take months.

Where do union drives go wrong?

One of the biggest mistakes is that they send people cold out to the field. They give them a business card and say, "You're a union organizer now." But they're put up against very well-trained consultants and political operatives.

What's a better strategy?

Looking at how other unions are winning. Ultimately, it's not all about the little authorization cards that are handed out. It's about empowering people to stick together. You've got to create a strong organization within the workplace before you try to get certified. That takes specific training. I also think there's a big opportunity now to use social media to talk to nonunion workers. Before, you had to go to workplaces to talk to people, which raised a red flag to employers.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Members of the Service Employees Union protested outside the Los Angeles International Airport last week.

Get a copy

Jason Mann's latest book, "Promoting Your Union: Six Strategies to Get More Organizing Leads and Union Members," is available for free download at **www.promotingyourunion.com.**

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bruce.walsh@metro.us

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Q&A

How do you deal with being an object of scorn to many employers?

The reason why a union drive starts is that folks contact the union office. It's almost always because they're not being treated with fairness and respect. It's true that if the boss doesn't have absolute control over the workplace, they don't necessarily like that. I can accept that. I know I'm there for the right reason.

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Do you have what it takes to be a social media manager?

Just a few years ago, social media managers didn't even exist. Now, some 79 percent of corporations have jumped on the bandwagon, hiring professionals to drive their online efforts. The growth is astounding, and it's a role that's here to stay.

It's the perfect job if you're someone who enjoys interacting with people (remember, it is social media!) and thrives on creativity, risk and experimentation. What are employers looking for when hiring someone to fill this role? Hint: They're not looking for someone who stares at his or her Facebook feed all day.

Adaptability and versatility: Online and social media is one of the most — if not the most — fast-paced and booming industries. New technologies and tools emerge and fail every day. Social media managers must be quick to adapt to new trends and understand how to apply them to a company's advantage.

More than that, they often have to be comfortable wearing different hats. You must be a researcher, a communicator, a writer and an event planner — all at the same time. You must embrace and thrive in this state of flux.

Enthusiasm and energy: You are the online voice and face for the company. You need to exude passion for whatever product or service you are representing. You need to understand the industry lingo, empathize with the company's community and live and breathe that brand. If you don't, not only will you be ineffective in driving your company's visibility but you're going to hate your life while doing so.

But being the resident evangelist for an organization you do believe in is a great feeling. Just remember: Passion is never overrated, and it can't be forced.

WAVEBREAK

▶ As a social media manager, you're on the clock as long as people are online: almost always.

Flexibility

Conversations don't stop the minute you walk out of the office. The thing about the online world is that it operates 24/7 and conversations will happen with or without you.

Your hours will be a little different from the usual 9-to-5 grind because people are always talking, tweeting, uploading videos and photos, and updating their Facebook statuses. You'll likely have to check social networks around the clock. (And no, that does not count as overtime.)

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▶ Snatch Fergie's new scent (it doesn't come out until February) for $50 on **Avon.com** — that's more than 66 percent off its regular $148 price tag. METRO/ME

Letters

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Sticks and stones may break bones, but words catch world's attention

RE: "HAMAS SAYS TRUCE AGREED; ISRAEL, EGYPT SAY NO DEAL YET" (METRO, NOV. 21-25) I believe that the Palestinians would have more success in their struggle with Israel if they adopted exclusively nonviolent tactics. A nonviolent Palestine could occupy the moral high ground in world opinion. No more rock-throwing and no more rockets. Israel is heavily armed, so contending with them militarily makes no sense. (Of course nonviolence strategy would work better for both sides.) In "The Politics of Nonviolent Action," Gene Sharp discusses 198 nonviolent tactics. Such tactics were successfully used, for example, in South Africa — and in the independence movements in India and Lithuania.

PAUL EMILE ANDERS, VIA E-MAIL

To those writers who decry the recent events in Gaza, I commend you for your compassion. But who is to blame for the Palestinian's plight? Israel? To some degree; their policy on settlement is inflammatory, to say the least.

But don't forget to blame Hezbollah, Hamas and their patron states like Syria and Iran, who profit from the death of every Israeli and Palestinian child equally. Let's not forget the Palestinian leaders, like Yasser Arafat, who snatched defeat from the jaws of victory at Taba, and finally, the Palestinians who allow themselves to be cannon-fodder and human shields for those who would use their population centers to launch indiscriminate attacks on Israeli civilians. There will be no peace, as Golda Meir said, as long as the Palestinians hate the Israelis more than they love their own children.

ERIC BLOCK, VIA E-MAIL

RE: "IT'S A BAD IDEA TO STICK BY ALLIES, EVEN WHEN WRONG" (METRO, NOV. 21-25) I wonder how letter writer Rich Brittle would react if someone were launching rockets at his house. I agree with his statement that our hearts should bleed for Palestine and its people. However, our hearts should also bleed for the Israelis who have been killed by Hamas terrorism.

JOHN FRANCIS FOX, VIA E-MAIL

Talk about a sore ... winner?

RE: "GOP ONLY WINS VOTES BY CHEATING" (METRO, NOV. 21-125) Letter writer Paul Simons is unbelievable.

His team wins, but he has to cry foul over the few victories the other side gets.

"The Democrats had more votes" — well, yes, but you're not supposed to count dead people and pets.

"President Obama is a fighter" — yes. He fought for as much media time on "The View" and for as many donations as possible while Ambassador Stevens was being killed in Benghazi by the al Qaeda that he personally had decimated by allowing the Navy Seals to take out Osama bin Laden.

Your guy won, Paul.

The Era of American Exceptionalism lost.

Just be happy with that, OK?

FRANK DIXON, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Establish an agenda and do your best to adhere to it. Unless you put some kind of plan together, you could get into trouble when trying to cut corners.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** While in your presence, a couple of friends might put down an absent friend. Under no circumstances should you contribute to the bash-fest.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Details could be of unusual importance when it comes to your big objectives. A failure to read the fine print and double-check everything could deprive you of the success you usually enjoy.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** There are very few things that would invite as many complications as would you being a copycat. Methods that worked well for another might cause you big trouble — and damage your reputation, to boot.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Guard against temptation to spend money on something that has previously proven to be wasteful. Don't be misled twice: You can't afford it.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Although you might feel impelled to make a difficult decision, don't do so impulsively. Take plenty of time to study the matter first, weighing all of your alternatives.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** A poor attitude will work to your detriment if you're not careful. You could easily make a problematical assignment even more difficult than it already is.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Be extremely careful not to come on too strong in your business and personal matters. Even if your input is well intended, your associates might feel you're trying to dominate them.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Your respect for authority figures could appear to be nonexistent if you're not careful. Be as diplomatic as possible when dealing with those with lots of clout.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** If someone should ask you to deliver a message, take precautions and write it down. Your memory might not be up to it's usual strength, and you may lose something in translation.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Don't trust important instructions to your memory. Your recall might not be as flawless as you think — and if not, you could land in a lot of trouble.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Cooperativeness is always important, but it's especially essential in your current one-on-one relationships. If you lack the ability to work well with others, it could cause needless problems.

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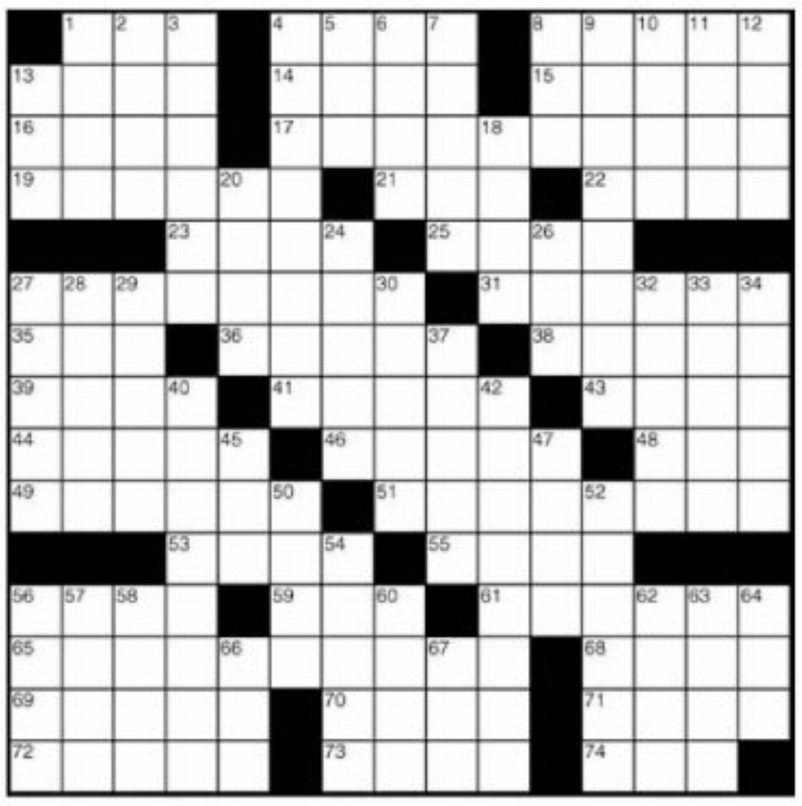
Across
1 Noon on a sundial
4 Bubble —
8 Knight's gear
13 Earns
14 Town east of Wichita
15 Steel plow inventor
16 Indigo plant
17 Slow motion (2 wds.)
19 Be in charge of
21 Actress — Hartman
22 Norse king
23 Reminds too often
25 Fitness centers
27 "Break a leg!" (2 wds.)
31 Light benders
35 Dow Jones fig.
36 Ancient harps
38 Square columns
39 Matted wool
41 Hoarder
43 Young woman
44 Fridge coolant
46 Less
48 Never, to Wolfgang
49 Disco flasher
51 Argon, e.g. (2 wds.)
53 Pasternak love interest
55 Speakeasy risk
56 Gibraltar landmark
59 Facilitate
61 Senseless behavior
65 Like holly
68 Visibly cold
69 Oven gloves
70 Essay byline
71 Queen of Sparta
72 Desperado's fear
73 Sum owed
74 Selene's sister

Down
1 Lawless role
2 Don't rub — —!
3 Boulevard divider
4 Smart alecks (2 wds.)
5 Prez after Jimmy
6 Botanical wings
7 Special effort
8 Website clutter
9 Lying at rest
10 Supper, for one
11 Killer whale
12 Coral formation
13 Shapely leg
18 Reindeer herder
20 Audacity
24 "Vamoose!"
26 A Knute successor
27 Spears, as a fish
28 Apparent
29 Certain wolf
30 Kline or Costner
32 Scorpion attack
33 Educator — Montessori
34 Monica of tennis
37 Sir, in Seville
40 Car trunk items (2 wds.)
42 Omar Khayyam opus
45 Knicks' org.
47 Lost traction
50 Q.E.D. part
52 Fit to consume
54 Intended
56 Mounties
57 Cincinnati river
58 Some PC screens
60 Roy Rogers' wife
62 Ersatz butter
63 Cows' mouthfuls
64 Pro vote
66 NNW opposite
67 Close kin



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		8	4		2	5		7
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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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				1				2
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	2		4	5		7	1	3
5				3				
			6		5		8	
2	9				1		3	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to holiday crossword

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Eagles looking for ways to kick offense into top gear

Playmakers like Jackson, Maclin need the ball Foles trying to build chemistry on the fly with talented receiving duo Rookie quarterback set to make second career start

Assuming Nick Foles has time to throw — and that's assuming a lot — he might want to look in the direction of his top two playmakers.

Those players being DeSean Jackson and Jeremy Maclin, of course.

The receiving tandem combined for just two catches last week against Washington, including a goose egg for Maclin. On the year, Jackson and Maclin have just six touchdowns as the offense continues to struggle to put points on the board. Foles knows he needs to get them involved early and often.

"The key to having a great team and a great offense is having a great O-line. It starts with them," Foles said, "and then getting the ball into your playmakers' hands. Those two guys are our playmakers, so we need to get them the ball."

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Maclin was held to zero catches last week after hauling in eight balls for 93 yards against Dallas.

There is a theory floating out there that maybe Maclin and Jackson aren't doing enough to get open. Perhaps the diminutive duo is getting lost in the shuffle, unable to find seams over the middle or keep working when plays break down. Looking at the tape, that isn't the case.

"That's just how it happened," Maclin said, when asked what he learned from the game tape. "Yes, there were plays where I felt like I could have gotten the ball, but what receiver doesn't feel like they can get the ball throughout the course of the game? Like I said, that was the flow of the game."

ON TV TODAY

Panthers at Eagles, 8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Foles probably has better chemistry with Damaris Johnson and Riley Cooper since he was practicing with the second team before Mike Vick went down. If so, that's not a good excuse.

"I'm just trying to get the ball on whatever play to the best receiver possible," Foles said. "Those guys are great players. I just have to continue to complete more balls, make better decisions and not turn the ball over."

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What to watch tonight as Birds host Carolina

The Eagles might not be playing for much more than their dignity the rest of the way. Players' and coaches' jobs will be on the line, and the front office is evaluating everyone and everything. Here's what to look for when the Eagles host the Carolina Panthers tonight on national TV (8:30 p.m., ESPN).

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▶ Johnson has 8.5 sacks for Carolina this season.

1 KEEP THE QB CLEAN. We say it every week, and we'll keep saying it until something changes: The Eagles need to stop the pass-rush. The makeshift offensive line gave up four sacks last week, while allowing Nick Foles to take some brutal hits. The unit is still trying to gel after 10 weeks, with another new starter, Jake Scott, taking over at right guard for a dinged Danny Watkins. And Carolina brings two of the best pass-rushers around in Greg Hardy and Charles Johnson (15.5 sacks combined).

2 NEXT MAN UP. LeSean McCoy is still dealing with headaches after sustaining a concussion, leaving the door open for rookie Bryce Brown to start at running back. Brown had a great camp and has looked good in spurts this season (32 carries for 141 yards, including a 40-yard gainer). Brown hasn't started a game since high school, all the way back in 2009. It'll be interesting to see how much the pass-happy coaching staff trusts him.

3 ALL ABOUT FOLES. Whether it's Andy Reid coaching this team next year or someone else, the Eagles have to evaluate Nick Foles. If the kid can play at a high level over these last few games, then the Birds can cross quarterback off their wish list this offseason. If not, well, the shopping cart gets even bigger. **MIKE GREGER**

Lifelong fan finally set for NFL debut

Curry expected to be active for first time this season • Second-round draft pick grew up cheering for Eagles • Hopes to help anemic pass-rush

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▶ Many analysts thought the Eagles got a steal when Curry fell to them in the second round of the draft (59th overall).

On draft day, Vinny Curry didn't want to let the TV cameras inside his boyhood home. He was embarrassed at what they might discover, namely all the Eagles' memorabilia and posters that lavished the doors and walls in his room.

Growing up in nearby Neptune, N.J., Curry was born and raised an Eagles fan. He lived and died with the Birds, and hoped that one day he might get the chance to represent them on the field. Well, seven months after getting that draft-day phone call from Andy Reid, Curry is set to make his Eagles debut.

While Reid hasn't made it official, Curry confirmed that defensive line coach Jim Washburn told him he'd be playing tonight against Carolina.

"Let's go! I can't wait, that's basically what it is," Curry said. "I'm not going to approach it like anything special. I'm going to continue to get better, doing what I've been doing, going out early and being the best teammate I can be, and compete."

Curry anticipates some nerves, but once that all subsides he's hoping he can make an immediate impact for a defensive line struggling with its pass-rush.

"I'm very hungry," he said. "I just want to show everybody what I can do and what I can bring and add to our D-line."

Curry hasn't been informed how many snaps he'll see. That's one of the reasons he didn't tell a lot of people about his first NFL game. Curry didn't even tell his family right away.

"They'll be watching from TV. I didn't really tell anyone, just trying to get this monkey off my back," Curry said.

MIKE GREGER
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Steelers drop one without Big Ben; 49ers win again

Pittsburgh in desperate need of Roethlisberger ◗ Bears secure tough NFC North victory ◗ San Fran's Kaepernick impressive in second start

NFL roundup

The playoff picture is becoming more clear and each game is more important now that we're past Thanksgiving. Many of yesterday's games featured teams in playoff contention and several came down to the wire.

Cleveland 20
Pittsburgh 14

With third-string QB Charlie Batch starting due to injury, Pittsburgh turned the ball over eight times in their six-point loss in Cleveland. The Steelers are now 6-5 and hope to get starting quarterback Ben Roethlisberger back sooner than expected.

Chicago 28
Minnesota 10

Despite a rash of injuries on both sides of the ball, the Bears were able to defeat the Vikings at home in convincing fashion. Michael Bush ran for 60 yards and two touchdowns in the win and Chicago saw receiver Brandon Marshall haul in 12 passes for 92 yards.

Denver 17
Kansas City 9

In a game closer than most expected, the Broncos earned an eight-point road win in Kansas City improving to 8-3. Peyton Manning continued his great season, throwing for 285 yards and two touchdowns.

San Francisco 31
New Orleans 21

Jim Harbaugh went with Colin Kaepernick and he didn't disappoint. Kaepernick threw for 231 yards, while throwing for one touchdowns and running another one in. Alex Smith never put down the clipboard.

Miami 24
Seattle 21

This may have been the most exciting of the early games as the Dolphins defeated the Seahawks on a Dan Carpenter 43-yard field goal as time expired. Seattle's Russell Wilson threw for 224 yards and two touchdowns, while Ryan Tannehill passed for 253 yards and a score in the Miami win.

Atlanta 24
Tampa Bay 23

The Falcons held on for a one-point road win. Michael Turner's 3-yard TD run with 7:55 remaining proved to be the game-winning score. Matt Ryan threw for 353 yards and a touchdown, while Doug Martin rushed for 50 yards and two scores. Atlanta is now 10-1 while Tampa Bay fell to 6-5 on the year. RYAN HANNABLE

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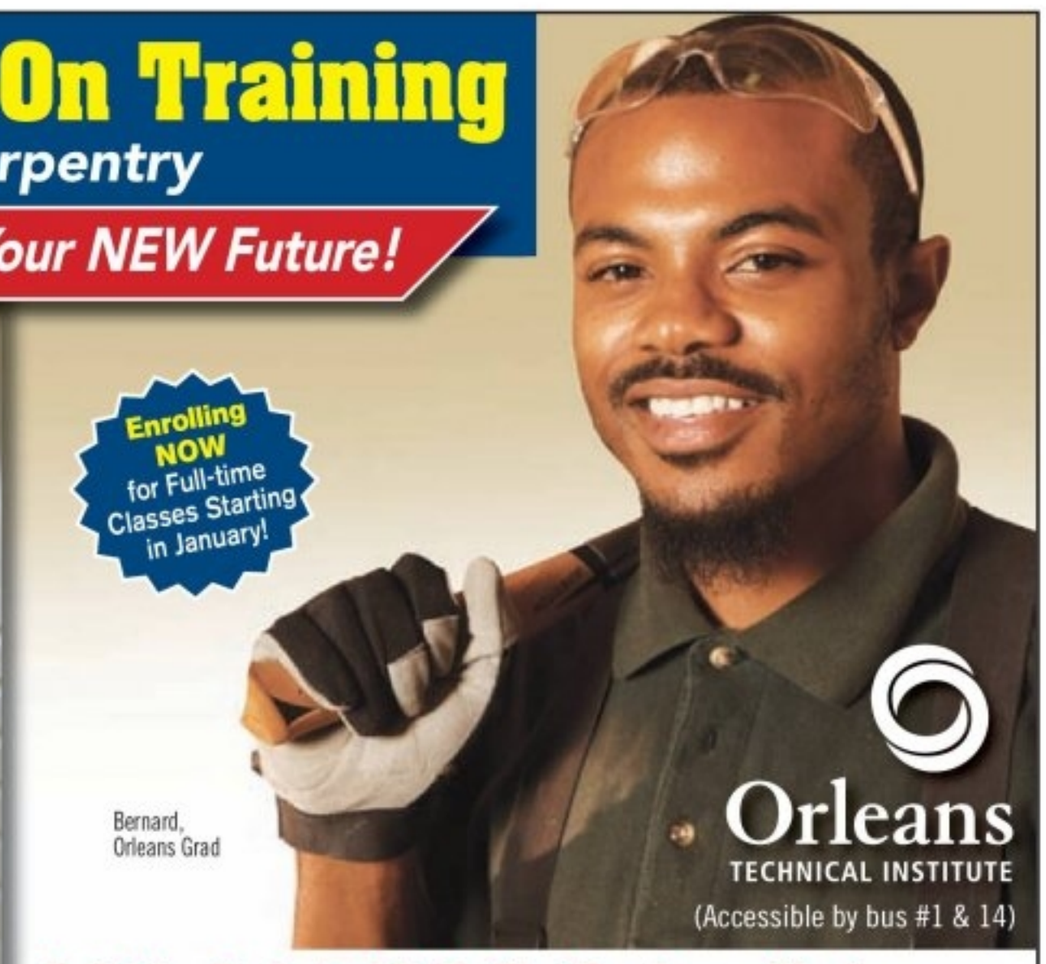
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Bynum out indefinitely, no timetable for return

The Andrew Bynum saga took another twist this past weekend when it was announced that the center is out indefinitely. It's what many were whispering, but Sixers GM Tony DiLeo made it official.

"The bottom line is that Andrew is out indefinitely. We don't know when he'll be back," DiLeo told reporters. "We have said all along that we need some patience, and that this is hard to predict, this healing process, and that Andrew is the indicator, and how his body reacts is how we can take the next step in his rehab program."

Bynum had been scheduled to return in January as he continues to battle a bone bruise in his right knee. However, the 25-year-old injured his left knee while bowling last week and has cartilage damage. No timetable has been given for Bynum's return.

"We hope that he will be back," DiLeo said. "We have plans for the future if he is not back with us." METRO

Sixers 104, Suns 101

- **Jrue Holiday** busted loose for 33 points and 13 assists yesterday as the Sixers bounced back from a hard-luck loss to Oklahoma City.
- **Evan Turner** and **Lavoy Allen** also chipped in with 16 and 11 points, respectively. **Thaddeus Young** finished with 10.

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▶ Will Bynum play this season? Maybe not.

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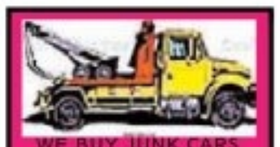

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